GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1889
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2001
ESTABLISHMENT OF PROCUREMENT CENTRES OF FCI
HEMA GAMANG

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether during rabi season 2000-2001 no procurement centre of FCI has been establishedin the State of Orissa for 24 agricultural commodities;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) whether the Government has initiated remedial measures in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHAUHAN)

(a): Food Corporation of India(FCI) deals with the Procurement of wheat, rice and coarsegrains

For both Rabi and Kharif, FCI had operated 70 procurement centres in Orissa for collection of levy rice during 2000-01 and procured a quantity of 7.66 lakh tonnes of levy rice. Wheat and coarsegrains are not procured in Orissa as it is not a surplus State in the production of these grains.

(b): Does not arise, in view of (a) above.

(c),(d)&(e): To avoid distress sale by the farmers, the FCI and the State Government have taken various measures which include evacuation of 1,58,000 tonnes of foodgrains from Bargarh, Sambalpur, Kalahandi and Bolangir during the last six months. The stocks are being sent to consuming areas like Cuttack, Bhubaneshwar and Khurda. FCI created additional storage capacityin the State by hiring private godowns. Movement of foodgrains from outside to Orissa has beenstopped with effect from January, 2001. The State Government advised the District Collectors to take action against the millers/agents if they buy paddy at a rate less than Minimum Support Price.